

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 0049
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 OECD PARIS 0815

6. DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. MAC LEAN SAID G-19 WERE EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE THEIR CHOICE FOR DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NEXT WEEK AND CONFIRMED THAT IT WOULD BE AFRICAN, SINCE AFRICA HAS NO CO-CHAIRMANSHIPS, PROBABLY A CAMEROONIAN. HE NOTED THAT UK HAD PUT FORWARD CANDIDATE ON INDUSTRIALIZED SIDE AND THAT OTHER NAMES HAD BEEN SUGGESTED INFORMALLY BUT DID NOT CONSIDER IT POSSIBLE TO TAKE DECISION AT THIS TIME. HE URGED THAT G-8 COUNTRIES CONSIDER SELECTION OF DEPUTY AND PROPOSE NAMES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT WAS AGREED THAT FURTHER MEETING OF G-8 AT PERMPREP LEVEL WOULD BE HELD AFTERNOON OF JAN 15, HOPEFULLY INTER ALIA TO SELECT G-8 DEPUTY. SWISS REP SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF SELECTING MAN FROM COUNTRY NOT HOLDING CO-CHAIRMANSHIP, TO WHICH MAC LEAN AGREED.

7. PREPARATIONS FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING. MAC LEAN EMPHASIZED THAT BOTH CANADIAN AND VENEZUELAN CO-CHAIRMEN CONSIDER IT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY.
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BILITY TO PROVIDE CHITTON INSTRUCTIONS ON PREPARATION OF BUDGET. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, IT WAS AGREED THAT GUDGET PROPOSAL SHOULD NOT BE FINALIZED UNTIL AFTER JAN 26 MEETING. IN THE MEANTIME, MAC LEAN WOULD BE MEETING WITH PEREZ-GUERRERO EARLY NEXT WEEK TO PREPARE GUIDANCE FOR GUITTON, WHO WOULD BE ASKED TO PREPARE DRAFT BUDGET BY JAN 19. THIS WOULD BE CIRCULATED QUICKLY TO THE 27 AFTER APPROVAL BY CANADIANS AND VENEZUELAN. IT WAS AGREED THAT EIGHT WOULD MEET TO DISCUSS BUDGET LATE IN WEEK OF 19TH AFTER IT HAS BEEN REVIEWED IN CAPITALS. IF IMPORTANT PROBLEMS ARISE THEY COULD BE TAKEN UP BY JAN 26 CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING. ON THE BASIS OF THIS SCENARIO, GUITTON WOULD HOPEFULLY ONLY HAVE TO PUT FINISHING TOUCHES ON BUDGET AFTER JAN 26 MEETING. AND FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE COULD HOLD LARGELY PERFUNCTORY MEETING EARLY IN WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2.

8. US REP SUGGESTED THAT METHOD OF DIVIDING COSTS AMONG G-8 SHOULD PROBABLY BE DECIDED AT AN EARLY DATE. IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD BE TAKEN UP AN JAN 15 MEETING.

9. PREPARATIONS FOR JAN 26 MEETING. MAC LEAN STATED THAT WHILE G-8 DID NOT WISH TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT ENHANCE STATUS OF CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING THEY SHOULD ALSO AVOID OTHER EXTREME OF GOING INTO MEETING TOTALLY UNPREPARED. HE THEREFORE THOUGHT A MEETING OF THE EIGHT INCLUDING OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS SHOULD BE HELD SHORTLY BEFORE JAN 26, PERHAPS ON FRIDAY THE 23RD BUT EVEN ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY IF DESIRABLE. US REP QUICKLY STATED OUR POSITION AS CONTAINED REF B, EMPHASIZING THAT ALTHOUGH ADDITIONAL MEETINGS MIGHT BE DESIRABLE AT PERMREP LEVEL TO DEAL WITH THE SORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES BEING DISCUSSED TODAY, WE CONSIDER SENIOR-OFFICIAL LEVEL MEETING UNNECESSARY AND BELIEVE SUCH A MEETING MIGHT CONVEY MISLEADING IMPRESSION TO THE 19. IN RESPONSE TO US REP'S STATEMENT THAT EIGHT AGREED DURING MINISTERIAL THAT MEETINGS AT THAT TIME CONSTITUTED CONSULTATIONS CALLED FOR IN COMMUNIQUE, MAC LEAN SAID CANADIAN UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT EIGHT AGREED THAT THOSE
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MEETINGS COULD REPEAT COULD BE CONSIDERED AS SUCH BUT THAT THEY HAD LEFT DOOR OPEN FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS IF DESIRABLE.

10. ALL DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO POSSIBILITY OF CHANGING G-8 POSITION ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING AND COMMISSION. HOWEVER,

SWISS DEL, SUPPORTED BY SPAIN AGREED WITH CANADIANS THAT EIGHT SHOULD GET TOGETHER AT OFFICIAL LEVEL PRIOR TO 26TH. JAPANESE REP THOUGHT THAT CO-CHAIRMAN AT LEAST SHOULD GET TOGETHER BEFORE THE 26TH NOT NECESSARILY TO DISCUSS COMMISSION GUIDELINES ISSUE BUT OTHER ISSUES WHICH MIGHT COME UP IN MEETING, PARTICULARLY SINCE THERE MAY BE NEW FACES AMONG CO-CHAIRMEN. FOR THIS PURPOSE HE SAID IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO CALL MEETING OF EIGHT. SWEDISH DEL AGREED THAT SENIOR-OFFICIAL LEVEL MEETING MIGHT CREATE IMPRESSION OF INTENSIVE PREPARATIONS AND BUILD UP JAN 26.

11. US REP AGREED THAT IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE FOR CO-CHAIRMEN TO GET TOGETHER JUST BEFORE JAN 26 MEETING BUT POINTED OUT THAT THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED VERY EASILY, PERHAPS EVEN OVER BREAKFAST THAT DAY OR OVER DRINKS THE EVENING BEFORE. HE REITERATED OUR OPPOSITION TO OFFICIAL LEVEL MEETING OF THE EIGHT OR ANY OTHER STEP WHICH MIGHT ENHANCE STATUS OF JAN 26 MEETING OR CREATE IMPRESSION THAT EIGHT MIGHT HAVE SOME FLEXIBILITY ON COMMISSION GUIDELINES. ISSUE. CHAIRMAN POSTPONED FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS ISSUE TO JAN 15, AT WHICH POINT IN THE LIGHT OF OUTCOME OF G-19 IT MAY BE CLEARER WHETHER PREPARATORY G-8 WILL BE ADVISABLE.

12. COMMISSION AGENDAS. JAPANESE REP STATED HE ASSUMED THAT COMMISSION CO-CHAIRMEN WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PRODUCING COMMISSION AGENDAS. HE ASKED WHAT MECHANISMS WOULD BE FOR DISCUSSING SUCH QUESTIONS AMONG THE EIGHT. US REP VOICED CAUTION ON ASSUMING THAT G-8 WAS APPROPRIATE BODY FOR DISCUSSING ALL QUESTIONS RELATED TO CIEC. HE AGREED THAT ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER QUESTIONS UNDER DISCUSSION THAT DAY WERE APPROPRIATE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE EIGHT BUT POINT OUT, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT TACTICAL
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ISSUES RELATED TO EACH COMMISSION NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE REFERRED TO ENTIRE EIGHT. AS FOR MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES ENTIRE OECD MEMBERSHIP HAD AGREED TO SEEK TO HARMONIZE SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS IN THE FOUR BACKSTOPPING GROUPS. MOREOVER, XCSS HAD CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DIALOGUE. FINALLY HE REMINDED THE GROUP THERE WAS GENERAL UNDERSTANDING TO PROCEED PRAGMATICALLY ON THE ISSUE OF OVERALL POLICY COOPERATION AND LINKAGES. CONSEQUENTLY G-8 SHOULD BE CIRCUMSPECT ABOUT WHICH TOPICS TO ARROGATE TO THEMSELVES.

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